

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-35 remain pending in this application. Based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Specification Amendments

The specification stands objected to, because the reference number “380” on page 12, line 5 of the specification should be “390.” The specification has been amended to correct this informality, and as such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the specification objection.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to provide antecedent basis for the claim language “elongate member.” Claim 29 has been amended to consistently refer to the language “elongate shaft.”

Claims 7, 10, 11, 21, 24, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for reciting trademarks. The claims have been amended to replace the trademark “TECOFLEX®” with the descriptive language “polyether-based aliphatic polyurethane,” and the trademark “NeoRez 967®” with the descriptive language “aliphatic urethane.”

As such, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §112 rejections of claims 7, 10, 11, 21, 24, 25, and 29.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 29, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,416,511 ("Lesh"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, since Lesh does not disclose each and every element required by these claims, as amended.

In particular, independent claim 29 has been amended to clarify that the electrode is configured to be in direct contact with electrically conductive fluid within the inflatable member, and that the distal end of the electrode is proximal to the electrically conductive region of the inflatable member. In contrast, even if the wires from the generator 175 of Lesh could be considered electrodes, they are not explicitly or inherently disclosed as being in direct electrical contact with the electrically conductive fluid within the inflatable member.

Thus, Applicant submits that independent claim 29, as well as the claims depending therefrom (33 and 34) are not anticipated by Lesh, and as such, respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection of this claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-6, 8, 9, 12-14, 16-20, 22, 23, 26-28, 30-32, and 35.

Conclusion


Based on the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments

regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (949) 724-1849.

Respectfully submitted,

**VISTA IP LAW GROUP LLP**

Dated: February 7, 2007

By:   
Michael J. Bolan  
Reg. No. 42,339

Customer No. 23410  
Vista IP Law Group LLP  
2040 Main Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Irvine, CA 92614